



City of New Bedford
Scott W. Lang, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

CITY AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HOMELESSNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

NEW BEDFORD MA - Mayor Scott W. Lang announced today that the City of New Bedford has been awarded \$1,078,797 in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist the City's homeless individuals and families. This competitive grant was part of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care grant application providing federal funding for homeless assistance programs.

The City of New Bedford Office of Housing and Community Development along with the collaborative efforts of the Homeless Service Provider's Network (HSPN) submitted a successful application for this highly competitive funding for the tenth consecutive year. The HSPN is a network of over fifty city agencies that meet monthly, and remain dedicated to address the homeless needs in New Bedford.

Several city agencies participated in submitting successful applications for funding under the HUD Supportive Housing Program. These programs awarded funding include the City of New Bedford, through the Office of Housing & Community Development and the Homeless Service Provider's Network. This funding will assist in securing both permanent and transitional housing programs as well as in the establishment of a Homeless Management Information System.

These programs include; \$245,065 Reflections, Inc - *Family Preservation Program*, a permanent housing program targeting 9 homeless women with disabilities and their children. \$272,490 - Catholic Social Services - *Coming Home Program*, a permanent housing program supported by a range of on-site and off-site supportive services that respond to the multiple needs of the recovering women and their children, \$265,079 PAACA, Inc. - *Step-Up Program*, a permanent housing program for 32 individuals and families, and \$199,346 Catholic Social Services - *Donovan House* – the only transitional Housing program for 18 women and children.

In addition, the City will receive \$96,819 in Emergency Shelter Grant funding as its entitlement for fiscal year 2007. This program provides critical funding for the City's emergency shelter system for essential services, prevention programs and operational funds for homeless shelters including Market Ministries, PACE and the Greater New Bedford's Women's Shelter.

Mayor Lang stated, "This funding announcement totaling over \$1 million will enable city agencies to provide safe and affordable housing options to the most vulnerable citizens in our community. The City recognizes the hard work and dedication of its Homeless Service Provider's Network as well as the continued long standing efforts of Congressman Frank and Senators Kennedy and Kerry in assisting our community in securing these funds."

Patrick J. Sullivan, Director of the City's Office of Housing and Community Development, stated, "The city has been extremely fortunate to receive this very competitive award. The Homeless Provider agencies that administer these programs and those agencies that provide critical supportive services continue to work diligently to create a better life for our homeless individuals and families".

Catholic Social Services received two awards for programs that target homeless women and children. Arlene McNamee stated "We are thankful for the award and happy that HUD recognizes the special needs of homeless women and children in our community. The last three weeks of extremely cold weather has brought to light the serious needs of homeless families in our community and our limited resources to assist them. These awards will assure that existing resources stay in place to provide important services to help families gain stability and hope for their future".

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